

## OPASTCO

ORGANIZATION FOR THE PROMOTION AND ADVANCEMENT OF SMALL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES

May 19, 2003

Statement by OPASTCO President John Rose toward the "Consumers, Schools, and Libraries Digital Rights Management Awareness Act of 2003"

"Senator Brownback has demonstrated strong leadership on an important issue for consumers and thousands of ISPs nationwide. OPASTCO is pleased to endorse his legislation, the Consumers, Schools, and Libraries Digital Rights Management Awareness Act of 2003.

Without question, OPASTCO members are strongly opposed to digital piracy. At the same time, our small, rural ISPs cannot be expected to function as the Internet police, and customers' information should not be revealed without proper due process. Senator Brownback's legislation strikes the right balance between the legitimate interests of copyright holders, and protecting small ISPs and their consumers from intrusive and unreasonable demands. We urge the Senate to cosponsor this legislation and support its swift passage," said OPASTCO President John Rose.